

Attorney's Docket No.: 07703-332001 / MEK-197/J.25273 US

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2.25.02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Billington et al.

Art Unit : 3652

Serial No. : 09/543,164

Examiner : J. Shapiro

Filed : April 5, 2000

Title : MONEY ACCEPTANCE METHOD AND APPARATUS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Official

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GROUP 3600

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR §1.137(a)
TO REVIVE UNAVOIDABLY ABANDONED APPLICATIONDuplicate
Accepted
Cert of Mail
Date 10/19/01
Releas

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.137(a) and in response to a telephone call from Examiner Jeffrey Shapiro concerning the abandonment of this application, the applicants hereby petition to revive the abandoned application. The application was abandoned for failure to timely respond to the Office Action dated July 19, 2001. Applicant, however, submits that any delay was unavoidable due to the procedures used by the US Patent Office and/or the US Postal Service to screen and sanitize mail sent to the Office in wake of the terrorist activities during the fall of 2001. The applicant, in fact, filed a timely response on October 19, 2001 as evidenced by the attached copies of:

1. the Amendment dated 19 October 2001 and signed by the attorney of record;

02/27/2002 WNEWTON 08000001 061050 09543164
01 FC:140 the Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail on page 1 of the Amendment dated
October 19, 2001 and signed by Dale Maher (now Dale Hansen), the undersigned's secretary;

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

February 21, 2002

Date of Transmission



Signature

Dale Hansen

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

Adjustment date: 03/05/2002 AGRAY1
02/27/2002 WNEWTON 00000001 061050 09543164
01 FC:140 110.00 CR

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3. the Checklist for Response to Office Action dated October 19, 2001 and initialed by Dale Maher and the undersigned attorney; and

4. the Declaration of Dale Hansen.

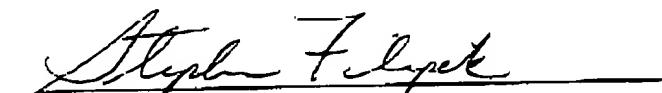
Based on the foregoing evidence which the undersigned certifies are true copies of the documents in the application file, applicant submits that any delay was unavoidable since applicant did not have any opportunity to respond to the Patent Office's requirements within the set time period. Therefore, applicant requests that the abandonment be withdrawn and that the enclosed Amendment be accepted as a response to the Office Action mailed July 19, 2001.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 06-1050 the amount of \$110.00 to cover the fee for this petition. However, in view of the fact that the originally filed Amendment was filed within the time period set forth in the Action, the applicants request a refund of the petition fee.

Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 21 February 2002



Stephan J. Filipek
Reg. No. 33,384

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231DECLARATION OF DALE HANSEN

The undersigned declares as follows:

1. I am a legal secretary at Fish & Richardson P.C. and prepared the papers for mailing in the above-identified application.
2. I signed the Certificate of Mailing (as "Dale Maher") dated October 19, 2001 affixed to the first page of the Amendment of the same date filed in response to the Office Action dated July 19, 2001.
3. On or about 28 January 2002, my name was legally changed from "Dale Maher" to Dale Hansen.
4. I placed the Amendment and return postcard in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 with sufficient postage to qualify as First Class Mail.
5. I deposited the correspondence in the mailroom of the New York office of Fish & Richardson P.C. where it was collected with other mail and then deposited with the United States Postal Service.

And said Dale Hansen further declares that all statements made herein of her own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of

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the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,



Dale L. Hansen

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